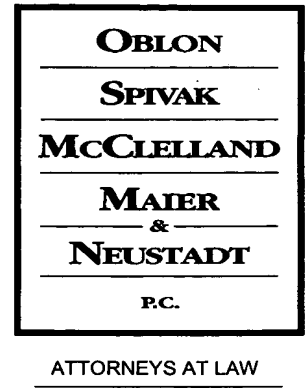




Docket No.: 211641US90PCT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



RE: Application Serial No.: 09/869,293

Applicants: Kouji YOSHIDA

Filing Date: August 27, 2001

For: PATTERN MATCHING METHOD AND UNIT,  
POSITION DETECTION METHOD AND UNIT,  
ALIGNMENT METHOD AND UNIT, EXPOSURE  
METHOD AND APPARATUS, AND DEVICE AND  
DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD

Group Art Unit: 2623

Examiner: DASTOURI, M.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Masayasu Mori

Registration No. 47,301

Customer Number

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(703) 413-2220 (fax)



DOCKET NO: 211641US90PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
KOUJI YOSHIDA : EXAMINER: DASTOURI, M.  
SERIAL NO: 09/869,293 :  
FILED: AUGUST 27, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2623  
FOR: PATTERN MATCHING METHOD :  
AND UNIT, POSITION DETECTION  
METHOD AND UNIT, ALIGNMENT  
METHOD AND UNIT, EXPOSURE  
METHOD AND APPARATUS, AND  
DEVICE AND DEVICE  
MANUFACTURING METHOD

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTON REQUIREMENT**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the outstanding Official Action dated March 18, 2005, applicant provisionally elects Group I, Claims 1-11, drawn to a method and unit for pattern matching method utilizing template matching.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct of independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be a part of an overlapping search area.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding Restriction requirement on the

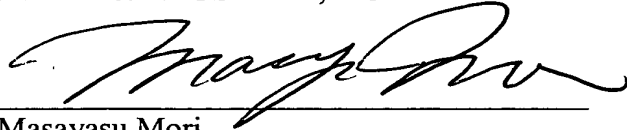
Application No. 09/869,293  
Reply to Office Action of March 18, 2005  
Response to Restriction Requirement

grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single group be withdrawn, and that full examination on the merits be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Masayasu Mori  
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(OSMMN 06/04)

MM/JM  
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